

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1988

UNCLAS BAMAKO 2963

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ML, EMIN

SUBJ: URANIUM AND GOLD IN MALI-RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

1. MR. GREGORY, SENIOR PROJECT GEOLOGIST, AND MR. WARIN, MANAGER EXPLORATION, FOR UTAH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY RECENTLY MET WITH MR. SEKOU DIALLO, DIRECTOR OF GEOLOGY AND MINES. PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE URANIUM PROSPECTING IN KAYES REGION. ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC DETAILS OF MEETING KNOWN, TWO MEN NOW PLAN TO VISIT AGAIN IN SEVERAL MONTHS. GREGORY AND WARIN CHARTERED PLANE TO VIEW AREA AND FEEL THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY FOR URANIUM.

2. UDC'S INTEREST COMES ON THE HEELS OF EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING AGREEMENT FOR URANIUM SIGNED BETWEEN MALI AND JAPAN IN ADRAR DES IFORAS REGION, IN EARLY JULY. AGREEMENT IS FOR 25 YEARS AND 500 MILLION MALI FRANCS WILL BE SPENT IN FIRST 5 YEARS. IF UDC EVENTUALLY SIGNS AN AGREEMENT THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM, SINCE KAYV REGION IS IN SOUTHEAST AND ADRAR DES IFORAS IS IN NORTHWEST.

3. ANOTHER RECENT ITEM OF INTEREST CONCERNS THE INTERVIEW GIVEN BY MAMADI KEITA, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS, TO THE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER, L'ESSOR. THE SUBJECT MATTER WAS THE 5.5 BILLION MALI FRANC AGREEMENT BETWEEN MALI AND THE SOVIET UNION FOR THE PRODUCTION OF GOLD AT THE KALNA MINE. THE MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT EXPLOITATION OF THE MINE WOULD MEAN JOBS FOR MALIANS, SERVE AS A TRAINING SNE FOR PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN OTHER PROJECTS, AND WOULD BRING IN ABOUT 3.8 BILLION MALI FRANCS 1 YEAR AT CURRENT WORLD PRICES.

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COMMENT: MALI IS EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN DISCOVERING AND DEVELOPING

NATURAL RESOURCES. ANY COMPANY COMING TO MALI SHOULD RECEIVE
EXCELLENT TREATMENT.
MASTERS

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